Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 20088 091045Z ACTION CU-05

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: ENGLISH CLASSES FOR REFUGEES

REF: USIA 22740

1. POST HAS LOCATED AN ENGLISH TEACHING SPECIALIST WHO WILL STUDY FEASIBILITY OF ORGANIZING ENGLISH CLASSES AT TWO REFUGEE CAMPS. SPECIALIST THIS WEEKEND WILL VISIT SO-CALLED "BOAT CASE" CAMP IN SONGKHLA AREA TO IDENTIFY REFUGEES OR OTHERS IN THE REGION CAPABLE
OF TEACHING ENGLISH, EXTENT OF INTEREST, MATERIALS TO BE USED. APPROPRIATE SALARY LEVERLS, ETC.

2. POST BEGINNING WITH THE "BOAT CASE" CAMPS OF WHICH THERE ARE TWO IN THAILAND BECUASE VAST MAJORITY OF REFUGEES THERE WILL BE ADMITTED TO ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES. WHEN COSTS OF PROGRAM ARE DETERMINED, POST WILL NOTIFY AGENCY.

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3. POST OF COURSE ALSO CONSIDERING FEASIBILITY OF ORGANIZING ENGLISH CLASSES IN OTHER CAMPS. THIS UNDERTAKING SOMEWHAT MORE COMPLEX BECUASE ONLY SMALL PERCENTAGE OF REFUGEES IN THESE CAMPS WILL BE ADMITTED TO U.S., AND PROBLEMS COULD ARISE IN RAISING EXPECTATIONS OR IN GENERATING RESENTMENT AGAINST THOSE IDENTIFIED AS QUALIFIED FOR US. ADMISSION AND THEN SINGLED OUR FOR ENGLISH CLASS ES.

4. RECOGNIZING THESE PROBLEMS, POST NEVERTHELESS IN SEEKING WAYS TO PROVIDE AT LEAST SOME BASIC ENGLISH COURSES FOR U.S. - BOUND REFUGEES IN THOSE CAMPS.

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